

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUDAPE 03528 241027Z

43

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 NIC-01 DRC-01 SAJ-01 /160 W

----- 062444

R 240955Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0385

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USUN NEW YORK 156

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUDAPEST 3528

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR, PFOR, HU, VS

SUBJECT: HUNGARY, VIETNAM AND RELATIONS WITH
US

REFS: A) BUDAPEST 3517; B) BUDAPEST 3525

1. FOLLOWING APPEARANCE OF ARTICLE IN OCTOBER 19 MAGYAR
HIRLAP CONTAINING CHARGES AGAINST US POLICY IN VIETNAM
EMB POLOFF CALLED ON VIETNAM DESK OFFICER (JOLSVAI) TO
SAY THAT SUCH BIASED PRESS ARTICLES WERE NOT HELPFUL
IN SERVING INTERESTS OF IMPROVING BILATERAL RELATIONS.
TOLD JOLSVAI THAT USG FOLLOWS HUNGARIAN PRESS AND GIVES
PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO INTERPRETATION OF USG ROLE IN
VIETNAM. ONE/SIDEDNESS OF COVERAGE COULD ONLY ENCOURAGE
BELIEF THAT GOH INVOLVEMENT IN VIETNAM WAS MERELY TO
SERVE PRG AND DRV INTERESTS.

2. JOLSVAI THEN SHOWN ARTICLE FROM OCTOBER 19 EDITION OF
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PAGE 02 BUDAPE 03528 241027Z

MAGYAR HIRLAP CONCERNING ALLEGED "MACHINATIONS OF THIEU

REGIME AND TREACHERY OF WASHINGTON". ARTICLE BLAMES
"STEP-UP IN MILITARY OPERATIONS AND ANTI/COMMUNIST HYSTERIA"
BY GVN FOR PRESENT FAILURE OF POLITICAL NEGOTIATIONS. USG
ACCUSED OF ENCOURAGING GVN TO VIOLATE PARIS AGREEMENTS AND
OF ITSELF VIOLATING ACCORDS BY "ILLEGALLY" SENDING
ARMS TO VIETNAM, BY LEAVING BEHIND "20,000 SOLDIERS MASKED
AS CIVILIANS" AND BY "MEDDLING IN DOMESTIC AFFAIRS OF
SOUTH VIETNAM."

3. AFTER READING ARTICLE, JOLSVAI APPEARED EMBARRASSED AND
IN UNUSUAL ADMISSION AGREED THAT WORDING REFLECTED "COLD
WAR" ATTITUDE. HE ALSO AGREED THAT IT WAS MISTAKE FOR GOH
TO
NEEDLESSLY DENIGRATE GVN BY REFERRING TO IT AS "SAIGON
ADMINISTRATION" AND IN IMPLYING THAT US IN POSITION TO
DICTATE TO THIEU GOVT. JOLSVAI SAID HE WOULD REPORT
EMBASSY'S VIEWS ON MATTER TO HIS "SUPERIORS" IN FONMIN.

4. POLOFF ALSO REVIEWED PA&E CASE WITH JOLSVAI AND EXPRESSED
OUR DISAPPOINTMENT THAT HUNGDEL ICCS HAD NOT INTERVENED WITH
PRG TO SECURE RELEASE OF ITS OWN EMPLOYEES. POLOFF SAID
WE FELT GOH HAS PARTICULAR RESPONSIBILITY AS
AMBASSADOR ESZTERGALYOS AS ICCS CHAIRMAN HAD REFUSED TO
INTERVENE DIRECTLY WITH PRG (SEE REFTTEL B).
PEDERSEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ANTICOMMUNIST, ARMISTICE, PRESS COMMENTS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, COMBAT OPERATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BUDAPE03528
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: BUDAPEST
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731015/aaaaalcv.tel
Line Count: 86
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A) BUDAPEST 3517; B) BUDAPEST 3525
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20-Sep-2001 by smithrj>; APPROVED <27-Nov-2001 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HUNGARY, VIETNAM AND RELATIONS WITH US
TAGS: MARR, PFOR, HU, VS, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005